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U.S. Explores Russian Mind-Control Technology

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WASHINGTON — The Russian government is perfecting mind-control technology developed in the 1970s that could be used to hone fighting capabilities of friendly forces while demoralizing and disabling opposing troops.

Known as acoustic psycho-correction, the capability to control minds and alter behavior of civilians and soldiers may soon be shared with U.S. military, medical and political officials, according to U.S. and Russian sources.

The sources say the Russian government, in the spirit of im-

proved U.S.-Russian relations, is beginning to lift the veil of secrecy surrounding the technology.

The Russian capability, demonstrated in a series of laboratory experiments dating back to the mid-1970s, could be used to suppress riots, control dissidents, demoralize or disable opposing forces and enhance the performance of friendly special operations teams, sources say.

Pioneered by the government funded Department of Psycho-Correction at the Moscow Medical Academy, acoustic psycho-correction involves the transmission of specific commands via static or white noise

"Two-thirds reduction is great. We're all for that," Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., said during a Jan. 7 confirmation hearing for Defense Secretary-designate Les Aspin. "But that doesn't reduce the number of warheads that are out there by two-thirds. Quite the opposite. The numbers stay the same, and the two-thirds which are now off alert are put in a position where they're less secure."

Roughly half of the U.S. nuclear warheads permitted under START II would be deployed at sea while 100 long-range bombers could be converted to conventional roles, according to treaty documents and private estimates.

Both sides made last-minute compromises that cleared the way for completing the treaty that was signed in Moscow on Jan. 3. U.S. negotiators acceded to Moscow's request to retain 90 SS-18 missile silos. The 10-warhead missiles must be destroyed under START II, analysts said, and cement will be poured into the silos to prevent reloading.

Russian negotiators also gained an extension of a

ventional roles while 94 B-52Hs are expected to carry nuclear air-launched cruise missiles or radar-evading Advanced Cruise Missiles with nuclear warheads. A 20-plane fleet of B-2 bombers is expected to be deployed with nuclear bombs.

START II's verification provisions will allow, for the first time, inspectors to confirm weapon loads carried by the other side's strategic bombers. The provision allows Russian inspectors their closest look at the B-2 bomber, but the United States will be able to conceal most of the plane with shrouds.

U.S. inspectors also will be able to observe SS-18 silo conversion and missile destruction procedures.

Dunbar Lockwood, an analyst with the Washington-based Arms Control Association, estimated the number of weapons carried by U.S. strategic bombers would decline from 3,700 warheads to 1,272 warheads, or 36 percent of the total permitted under START II.

The United States also would be able to reconvert
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U.S. and Russian sources said.

An undated paper by the Psycho-Correction Center, a Moscow-based group affiliated with the Department of Psycho-Correction at the Moscow Medical Academy, acknowledges the potential danger of this capability. The Russian ex-

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Correction

A page three article in the Dec. 14-20 issue about agreement on the European Fighter Aircraft development incorrectly stated that the new EFA design called for

dramatically scaled down combat and radar systems. A family of EFA variants will be developed allowing each country to choose the level of sophistication it can afford.